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Urban District Council of Rishton

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
INCLUDING DETAILS OF WORK  
DONE BY THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RISHTON FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958

Medical Officer of Health—  
R. C. WEBSTER,  
B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.  
19, St. James Street,  
ACCRINGTON. ,  
Telephone: Accrington 4223.

Public Health Inspector—  
S. PILKINGTON,  
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Council Offices,  
Brook Street,  
RISHTON, Near Blackburn.  
Telephone: Gt. Harwood 2264/5.





Urban District Council of Rishton

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Council Offices,

RISHTON.

July, 1959.

*To the Chairman and Members*  
OF THE  
*Urban District Council of Rishton*

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	.....	2,878.4
Rateable Value	.....	£44,026
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate	.....	£174
Population, 1951 Census	.....	5,794
Estimated 1957 Mid-year Population	.....	5,540
Estimated 1958 Mid-year Population	.....	5,500

Rishton is a compact Urban area whose chief industries are cotton, felt and carpet weaving, paper making, paint and varnish manufacture, and paper string manufacture.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

Death Rate (crude)	.....	15.8
Death Rate (adjusted)	.....	16.0
Death Rate (England and Wales)	.....	11.7
Live Birth Rate (crude)	.....	15.5
Live Birth Rate (adjusted)	.....	17.3
Live Birth Rate (England and Wales)	.....	16.4
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births	.....	44.9
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	.....	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	.....	47.1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	.....	47.1

There were 85 live births and 4 stillbirths registered during 1958 and 87 deaths from all causes. The birth rate has risen from 11.7 to 17.3 and the death rate has risen from 11.1 to 16.0. The infant mortality appears high ; but in small figures fluctuations are exaggerated, and I am satisfied that none of the 4 deaths was avoidable.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

This year has again seen a low incidence of reported cases of notifiable infectious diseases, with the exception of measles.

### LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Local Health and Welfare Services under the National Health and Assistance Acts are administered in Rishton by the Lancashire County Council Number 5 Health Division.

Miss E. Singleton is the Health Visitor/School Nurse for the Rishton District, and the following are the services administered at the Child Welfare and School Clinic, 108, High Street, RISHTON. Telephone No. Great Harwood 3177.

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic | 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month (morning).  |
| 2. Child Welfare Clinic             | Each Tuesday afternoon.                      |
| 3. Minor Ailment Clinic             | Each Monday and Friday morning.              |
| 4. Immunisation Clinic              | As and when arranged.                        |
| 5. Orthopædic Clinic                | 4th Wednesday each month.                    |
| 6. Ophthalmic Clinic                | 1st and 3rd Thursday (afternoon).            |
| 7. Dental Clinic                    | Each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (all day). |
| 8. Speech Therapy                   | By appointment.                              |
| 9. Physiotherapy                    | Each Wednesday (all day).                    |

Wherever possible appointments should be made before clinics are attended, although the Dental Officer will attend to cases of toothache without appointment.

The County Midwife for Rishton is Mrs. Phillipson, 4, Devonshire Drive, CLAYTON-LE-MOORS. Telephone Accrington 2250.

The County District Nurse for the District is Mrs. Branderick, The Bungalow, Wharf Street, RISHTON.

To obtain the Ambulance Service ring Accrington 4834.

### STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	Total	Males	Females
Live Births—Legitimate .....	85	38	47
Live Births—Illegitimate .....	Nil	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	<b>85</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>47</b>
Stillbirths .....	4	3	1
Deaths .....	87	44	43

### POPULATION FIGURES OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS

	Registrar General's Estimated Figure	Births	Deaths	Births & Deaths Differential
1958 .....	5,500	85	87	— 2
1957 .....	5,540	58	61	— 3
1956 .....	5,580	77	80	— 3
1955 .....	5,630	52	94	— 42
1954 .....	5,630	53	81	— 28
1953 .....	5,660	67	71	— 4
1952 .....	5,741	59	86	— 27
1951 (Census) .....	5,794	70	91	— 21
1950 .....	5,926	81	93	— 12
1949 .....	5,832	90	87	+ 3
1948 .....	5,644	84	72	+ 12

### SUMMARY CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasms (Stomach) .....	—	4	4
Malignant Neoplasms (Lungs) .....	3	2	5
Malignant Neoplasms (Breast) .....	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms (others) .....	4	1	5
Diabetes .....	—	1	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	9	4	13
Coronary Disease (Angina) .....	5	6	11
Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	1	2	3
Other Heart Diseases .....	2	3	5
Other Circulatory Diseases .....	1	1	2
Pneumonia .....	3	2	5
Bronchitis .....	5	5	10
Other Diseases of Resp. System .....	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	2	—	2
Congenital Malformations .....	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	5	12
All other accidents .....	1	2	3
Nephritis .....	—	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	—	1	1
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	<b>44</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>87</b>



## PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930

Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register at the 31st December, 1958, compared with figures for 1957 :

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1958 .....	20	12	32	5	1	6	25	13	38
1957 .....	19	13	32	5	4	9	24	17	41
Cases notified for first time during year .....									3
Removed from district .....									—
Moved into district .....									1
Diagnosis not confirmed .....									1
Recovered .....									6

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases at all ages	Age Periods — years									
		0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25 and over	age unknown
Whoop'g Cough	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	94	—	11	10	16	15	40	—	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	7	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—
Total cases											
at all ages	102	—	11	11	16	16	46	—	—	1	1

Acute Poliomyelitis, both paralytic and the non-paralytic type, and Diphtheria were both absent from the notifications. This is a pleasant state of affairs, one which we hope will continue, assisted by the co-operation of parents taking advantage of the inoculations offered for their children.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Age Periods — years						
		0	5	15	45	65 and over	age unknown	
Acute Pneumonia (Prim. and Inf.) .....	10	3	1	2	2	1	1	
Erysipelas .....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Food Poisoning .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis (R'spir't'ry) .....	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis (other) .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
TOTALS .....	16	3	1	6	4	1	1	



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Disease	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Scarlet Fever .....	1	—	2	—	7
Measles .....	—	61	33	10	94
Whooping Cough .....	25	—	3	9	1
Pneumonia .....	14	4	2	5	10
Food Poisoning .....	1	—	3	2	1
Erysipelas .....	—	—	1	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>115</b>

In making my report I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Council for their support and encouragement throughout the year, and other officials and staff for their friendly help.

Yours faithfully,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.



Council Offices,  
Brook Street,  
RISHTON,  
Near Blackburn.

## *Report of the Public Health Inspector*

**For the Year ended 31st December, 1958**



I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1958. During the year a survey of school accommodation resulted in improved amenities at several of the schools.

Clean air and clean food have again commanded a lot of attention and time, and good progress has also been made with the conversion of waste water closets.

I am grateful to the officials and staff for the help I have received and to the Chairman and members of the Council for their encouragement and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

S. PILKINGTON,

Public Health Inspector.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

### Water Supply

Samples of water supply to the area have been taken with the following results :

Two samples of water have been taken of the Public Supply and both proved satisfactory. These are in addition to the 80 samples taken by the supplying Authority, reports on which are forwarded to the Local Authority.

Nine samples of water have been taken from private supplies and these also proved satisfactory.

### Public Cleansing Service

I am pleased to report that in this department we are served by a conscientious group of workmen, who during the year have maintained the service at a high point of efficiency.

The weekly collection of refuse was maintained throughout the year, the recovery after holidays and periods of inclement weather being very quick.

At the tip the annual share of malicious damage has been suffered. Tip foragers breaking into the huts and causing fires are the main source of trouble.

Litter bins appear to be a fair target for some irresponsible youths, who apparently use the bins as targets when demonstrating their physical strength.

### SALVAGE

January .....	6	8	2	41	15	4
February .....	3	19	3	25	18	5
March .....	8	4	1	53	7	8
April .....	5	2	0	33	3	0
May .....	5	5	1	34	4	2
June .....	8	18	0	57	17	0
July .....	5	0	0	30	0	0
August .....	6	1	0	36	6	0
September .....	4	17	3	29	2	0
October .....	4	16	1	28	17	6
November .....	9	16	1	58	17	6
December .....	4	0	3	24	4	6
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>£453</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>

Receipts from Trade Tipping : £31 9s. 0d.



## OTHER FOODS

### Unsound Food

The following foodstuffs have been rejected during the year as being unfit for human consumption :

Steak	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11½ lb.
Beans	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 lb.
Peas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 lb.
Grapefruit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 lb. 4 oz.
Boiled Ham	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 lb.
Peaches	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 lb.
Pineapples	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 lb.
Salmon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3¾ oz.
Corned Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 lb.
Fowls	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32 lb.
Bovine Hearts (frozen)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22 lb.



## HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Houses inspected for housing defects	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64
Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	202
Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Number of dwelling houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after informal action	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notice was served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Number made fit by owners after service of formal notice	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Certificates of Unfitness applied for	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Certificates of Unfitness granted	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Certificates of Revocation applied for	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Certificates of Revocation granted	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

### Part I of the Act

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register		Inspections		Written notices		Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities...	6	...	8	...	—	...	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	31	...	14	...	—	...	—
3. Other Premises in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- worker's premises) ... ..	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
TOTAL ... ..	37	...	22	...	—	...	—

At two factories defects were found : at one lack of cleanli-  
ness and at another insufficient sanitary accommodation. At both  
factories the defects were remedied after informal intimation.



